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ICSB Continues to Seek Quality Options for Hoosier Students

Charter School Board Holds Public Hearings for Spring Applicants



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The Indiana Charter School Board (ICSB) received applications from 16 charter school organizers for 39 proposed schools during its spring application cycle. All applications will be subject to a rigorous review process before final decisions are made during the board's May 21 meeting.

"Our goal is to provide all Hoosier students the educational opportunities they deserve," ICSB Executive Director Claire Fiddian-Green said. "Students have different needs and therefore thrive in different learning environments. That said, we can never sacrifice our commitments to quality and accountability. These two themes—quality options and accountability—will drive this process moving forward."

The ICSB will hold six regional public hearings to gather community input on applications from April 26 to May 14. Members of the general public are encouraged to attend and participate in these important gatherings.

"The upcoming round of public hearings is an important component of our application evaluation process," Fiddian-Green said. "Community members should attend these meetings to ensure their voices are heard."

Public hearings will be held at the following locations, dates and times:

Anderson Public Library Thursday, April 26, 5:30 PM EDT 111 East 12th Street Anderson, IN 46016	Indiana Department of Education Monday, April 30, 5:30 PM EDT The Riley Room 151 W. Ohio Street Indianapolis, IN 46204	Mid America Science Park Thursday, May 3, 5:30 PM EDT 821 South Lake Road South Scottsburg, IN 47170
Bethel Church Monday, May 7, 5:30 PM CDT 10202 Broadway Crown Point, IN 46307	Shawnee Branch Public Library Wednesday, May 9, 6:30 PM EDT 5600 Noll Avenue Fort Wayne, IN 46806	Evansville Central Library Monday, May 14, 5:30 PM CDT 200 SE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. Evansville, IN 47713

For a list of the applications corresponding to each regional meeting, [click here](#).

Board members will carefully examine potential organizers for both capacity to deliver and commitment to providing students quality instruction. Approved applicants are expected to succeed in driving academic success for all enrolled students.

During the fall application cycle, the board approved five organizers to open six schools in Indiana by the 2013-2014 school year. The list includes several nationally recognized providers as well as local organizations with deep roots in their communities. Currently approved organizers include the following:

- ▶ BASIS School Inc. – Approved to open an Indianapolis school in 2013.
- ▶ Carpe Diem – Approved to open an Indianapolis school in 2012.
- ▶ Goodwill Education Initiatives – Approved to open an Anderson school in 2012.
- ▶ Indianapolis Charter Education Foundation, Inc. – Approved to open two Indianapolis schools in 2012.
- ▶ Fort Wayne Urban League – Approved to open a Fort Wayne school in 2012.

In 2011, the Indiana General Assembly passed legislation to establish the Indiana Charter School Board to encourage the growth of high quality charter schools throughout the state. Currently, thousands of Hoosier children sit on charter school wait lists. Members of the board are appointed by the Governor, State Superintendent and legislative leaders.

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